## Message Text

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12

**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

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R 121541Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1139

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CINCPAC

CINCEUR

USIA WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM

DIA WASHDC

CINCUSAFE RAMSETIN AFB

CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA

CNO WASHDC///OP-614

DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII

RUEKJC BXOSD/ISA/EUR WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, UK, AO, LE

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - MARCH 12.

FOR POLADS

USIA FOR IOP/IBS, IPS, IEU

- 1. SUMMARY:
- -- COVERAGE OF THE U.S. CONTINUES BASICALLY
  NEGATIVE. PRAVDA CARRIES A LONG HARSH ARTICLE BY ITS
  SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK, N. KUDYUMOV (SEPTEL);
- -- CENTRAL PRESS CONTINUES TO FOCUS ON THE POSSIBILITIES OF INCREASED UK-SOVIET TRADE, IN A BUILD-UP FOR GROMYKO'S VISIT LATER THIS MONTH;
- -- PRAVDA REPORTS THAT SIAD MET WITH PODGORNY (SEPTEL);
- -- COVERAGE OF LEBANON IS FAIRLY STRAIGHTFORWARD, BUT KEEPS THE THREAT OF ISRAELI INTERVENTION ALIVE DAND WELL;
- -- AND A REPORT FROM ANGOLA HINTS THAT THE MPLA MAY BE HAVING TROUBLE ORGANIZING ITS FIRST HARVEST. END SUMMARY.
- 2. U.S. AND DETENTE. IZVESTIYA (MARCH 11) AND KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (MARCH 12) CARRY BRIEF REPORTS ON ALLEGED GROWING TERRORISM IN THE U.S., AND CITE AS PROOF THE CLAIM THAT 153 BOMBS WERE EXPLODED IN JANUARY ALONE. KZ ALSO CARRIES A UPI PHOTO SHOWING THE CONSTRUCTION OF CRUISE MISSILES. NOVOYE VREMYA (MARCH 12) SAYS PRESIDENT FORD'S DECISION NOT TO USE THE WORD IS NOT SIGNIFICANT. NV AGAIN DENIES THE EXISTENCE OF ANY SOVIET VIOLATION OF THE SALT TREATY. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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3. UNITED KINGDOM. CENTRAL PRESS CONTINUES ITS INTEREST IN THE SEMINAR IN NEWCASTLE AS SEVERAL ARTICLES TIED TO INCREASED UK-SOVIET TRADE ARE CARRIED. PRAVDA'S REPORT STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF PM WILSON'S VISIT TO MOSCOW LAST YEAR, AS WELL AS SUBSEQUENT CONTACTS BETWEEN SOVIETS AND UK BUSINESSMEN. COMMENT. THE STRESS ON THE WILSON VISIT COULD CONCEIVABLY SUGGEST THAT THE SOVIETS INTEND

TO PUSH SERIOUSLY FOR A BREZHNEV VISIT TO THE UK THIS SUMMER. END COMMENT.

4. MIDDLE EAST. CENTRAL PRESS CARRIES REASONABLY BALANCED COVERAGE OF THE SITUATION IN LEBANON AND THE MUTINIES IN THE ARMY. THE MUTINEERS ARE IDENTIFIED AS MUSLIMS, AND THE REPORTS STATE THE SITUATION IN THE ARMY HAS CREATED "DEEP UNREST" IN LEBANESE POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENTAL CIRCLES. THE REPORTS CONCLUDE WITH REFERENCES TO THE DANGER PRESENTED BY POSSIBLE ISRAELI INTERVENTION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON "UNDER THE PRETEXT OF LIQUIDATING THE DANGER ON ITS BORDERS." PRAVDA CARRIES A TASS REPORT FROM CAIRO THAT ROMANIA INFORMED THE ARAB LEAGUE BOYCOTT OFFICE THAT BUCHAREST WILL NOT RENEW A CONTRACT WITH ISRAEL WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE TRANSSHIPMENT OF IRANIAN OIL THROUGH THE PORT OF ELIAT. ACCORDING TO PRAVDA, IN THE FUTURE ROMANIA WILL SHIP ITS OIL THROUGH THE SUZE CANAL.

5. AFRICA. ON ANGOLA, PRAVDA REPORTS THE MPLA HAS MOUNTED A DRIVE TO GET STUDENTS AND OTHER CITY-DWELLERS OUT IN THE FIELDS TO ASSIST BRINGING IN "FIRST POST-INDEPENDENCE HARVEST." THE PRAVDA ACCOUNT IMPLIES THAT ONE POSITIVE EFFECT OF THIS PROGRAM WILL BE AN INCREASED AWARENESS ON THE PART OF THE STUDENTS OF THE "CARES AND PROBLEMS" OF THE PEASANTS. PRAVDA CARRIES A BRIEF TASS REPORT FROM NEW YORK THAT THE UN COMMITTEE ON NAMIBIA EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THE STRUGGLE BEING WAGED BY SWAPO, AND ADDS THAT THE SWAPO SPOKESMAN (R. KHAUVANGA, PHON) DECLARED THAT "THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT OF THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA" IS BEING SUPPRESSED.

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